

of southwest Texas, although it has been in operation less than two years.

There are six offices now upon the property and the value of oil and gas there are all under the care management of Mr. Edwards who buys the entire and the land from the Farmers at the current market rates and sells them probably as it is more independent in business on his own account.

The stores conducted by the company at Taft, Gregory and elsewhere endeavor to buy as cheaply and sell as fairly as an independent merchant might, and if they fail to show a profit on these purchases, it is found an independent of the mercantile business.

The same thing is true of the hotel which the company owns and manages.

The same firm has also organized and operates the laundry and the independent control of an old establishment whose salary demands partly upon its ability to reduce the per acre cost of raising and marketing the land.

These places are turned over great areas with a facility that is remarkable, especially when it is considered that they are concentrated to a camp consisting of four comparatively large and isolated houses, occupied respectively by a machine shop, a blacksmith, a kitchen and an office. These houses have been constructed on what may be described as heavy steel girders and being attached to the engines which pull the plows, are situated across the roads at the rate of two miles an hour.

Mining and Blacksmith shops are maintained at various points on the property, but those which are work to do there have to pay for it each.

There are two banks on the property one called the Taft Bank at Taft, and the other the Taft Bank, Bank of Gregory, the members of which have agreed to be very strict that their bank notes are on the right side.

An object lesson in agricultural organization, this plan devotes 1000 separate and independent units, each one administered with due regard to the rights of its associate units, is now rapidly increasing.

ASSETS IN MONEY AND HAPPINESS.

One of the best things about the community life on the Taft Ranch is that all the people, though working hard, appear to be energetic and happy. The schools on the place provide not only for "book learning" but for educational instruction as well. To each of them is allotted extensive gardens and there every child has a little plot of ground where he may observe the mysteries of nature's chemistry.

No affiliation has been made in the result which the enterprise yields. It ought to be and undoubtedly is large. The land which originally cost little or nothing is probably worth \$400 an acre. The improved land is easily salable for \$75 an acre, and the unbroken prairie for \$40 an acre. An average of \$75 an acre for the entire tract would indicate a possible value of something more than \$5 million for what forty years ago was almost valueless. This does not take into consideration the improvements in the value of the buildings lots in the town nor does it allow for the profit from the various developmental splits of the lands, nearly all of which yield substantial returns.

It cannot, however, with the gain that may be measured in money, that this article has attempted to deal. It is of course essential that all such enterprises should be profitable. Only so can they be justified. They cannot exist. Whatever profit the Taft Ranch may yield to its owners, its maximum value compared with the enormous value of the assets that it is奉献 to the future of the nation, which is well known to the American agricultural world, and the story of its development must become better known.

The Taft Ranch daily demonstrates that in the hands of capable



Taft Auditorium—Has Seating Capacity of 500 and Opened for Entertainment Tuesday Night.

FLOURSPAR MINES WORKED FOR 40 YEARS WITH TWO STRIKES

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
WICHITA FALLS, Sept. 29.—Where do the lead pencils come from and where do they go? Although almost everybody has one, most folks never buy one, but even so, there are 200,000,000 pencils manufactured for sale in the United States every year, made mainly of wood.

100 woods suitable for lead pencils are becoming scarce and many manufacturers are turning to paper. Lead pencils and Pencil Association of the American Pencil Association says the woods chiefly used in making lead pencils are lime, cedar, or other kinds of wood that will take the glaze off these.

In East Africa a kind of cedar has been found with which experiments are being made.

BOTTOM NOT FOUND.

The Florida source, however, will give the largest in the United States.

The main wood remains unchanged and southwest receives the largest share.

Crates from 6 to 20 feet wide, up to 100 tons each, are the best lead and charcoal pencils which have been sold.

Lead pencils cost 10¢ to 15¢ the dozen. Manufacturers make 10¢ to 15¢ profit.

Manufacturers are now turning to the charred wood which is being used in making the bottoms of the pencils.

The pencil industry is the second in the history of the business, but the buying power of the industry is still small.

The last number given was \$200,000,000 for 1919.

The industry is not yet strong enough to support a national association.

Florida is the chief producer of wood.

Charcoal is used in industry for a wide variety of purposes. The chief industrial uses are in the making of coal gas, coke, and charcoal.

Charcoal is used in the manufacture of glass, iron, and steel.

Charcoal is also used in the manufacture of leather, soap, and paint.

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